

## Hopewell PTA Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2017

**Members Present:** Tara Moyer, Catherine Ziets, Jennifer Hedden, Dawn Resch, Nicole Emery, Melissa Rizzuto, Christine Connelly, Jill Wheeler, Tiffany Gyuricsko, Christina Wasem, Kathy Schiffer, Sue Arthur, Anita Shah, Lori Limpar (Principal), Susannah Detwiler, Renee D'Amico, Avani Shah

**I. Call to Order:** Dawn called the meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

**II. Approval of March 2017 Minutes:** Dawn asked for a motion to approve. Christina Wasem approved, Anita Shah seconded, and all were in favor.

### **III. Report of Officers:**

#### **A. Treasurer's Report (Jennifer Hedden):**

1. Jennifer reviewed Account balances:  
Checking: \$36,609.64  
Savings: \$7,787.55  
Balance Cash on Hand: \$44,397.19
2. Jennifer presented the budget for the 2017-2018 School Year (attached)  
Jen reviewed each item, noting an increase/decrease with each.  
(There has been an increase in certain items due to the increase in students and staff)  
We will vote on the proposed budget at our next PTA meeting in May.
3. The PTA will be sponsoring one student to attend Liberty Trails this summer.

#### **B. Principal's Report ( Ms. Limpar):**

1. Menchie's: This Friday, April 7th from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. will be a Family Fun Night at Menchie's, the Cedar Crest location. Some teachers have volunteered to "work" at Menchie's. 20% of food proceeds will be donated back to Hopewell. Ms. Limpar said she will send a blackboard connect to remind the families of this event.
2. PSSA: Testing began this week with English/Language Arts Assessment.  
To help motivate the students, there will be spirit days this week:  
Tuesday, 4/4: College Sweatshirt/T shirt day  
Wednesday, 4/5: Sports Day  
Thursday, 4/6: Superhero Day  
Friday, 4/7: Southern Lehigh/Hopewell Blue Day  
The Math PSSA will be given April 25th, 26th, and 27th.  
The purpose of these tests is to see how our district is meeting state standards.
3. Classroom Placements for next school year: Ms. Limpar explained the process of how children are placed. Academic and social factors are the primary determinants. Together, the principal, psychologist, reading specialist, RTII teacher and classroom teachers review the strengths and needs of each child. Parents who have concerns about their child may share their thoughts in writing to Ms. Limpar by May 1st, however, responses to these letters will not be provided.
4. Ms. Limpar reviewed proper footwear as the warm weather approaches. Flip flops are discouraged (they tend to break easily) Students should wear secure footwear with straps.
5. Kindergarten Registration is currently going on. (4/3, 4/4, 4/5). This is held at Liberty Bell by appointment only. The child must be 5 before September 1st.

6. Book Orders for our author visit are due today, April 5th. On April 26th, we will be having an author visit with Lee Harper. Children have the option to preorder one of his books and he will autograph it.
7. Thursday, April 13th is a make-up day.

**C. President's Report (Carla Stock reported by Dawn Resch):**

1. Thanks to Christina Wasem for organizing Family Fun Night at Bethlehem Skateaway. It was a great success. It was well attended with 225 people. The PTA absorbed the cost of the skating rink and families only needed to pay \$2.00 to rent skates per person. We received great feedback, it was a fun night.
2. Teacher Appreciation: Elaine Thode is looking for someone to help her for Teacher Appreciation Week which is in May. If interested, please reach out to Carla or Elaine.

**D. Vice President's Report (Dawn Resch):**

1. Giant A+ is over for the year. It ended on March 16th. The balance for the year is \$1,544.64 which goes directly to Hopewell. You will need to re-register your cards in August for the following school year (& you can register up to two schools on your card.) Dawn noted Amazon Smiles is still ongoing.
2. Nominations: Dawn noted the PTA Bylaws need to be revised every 5 years. They currently need to be revised by June of this year. You need to be a member of the PTA for at least 6 months to be an officer. As our bylaws stand now, it states that in order to be President, you must be on the executive board for at least one year (this is up for discussion as to whether this will be changed when the bylaws are revised). Carla will not serve as President next year.

Nominations Committee (Nicole Emery)

Nicole presented the nominees for the 2017-2018 PTA Board

President: Jennifer Hedden

Vice President: Tara Moyer

Recording Secretary: Jill Wheeler

Corresponding Secretary: Shauna Werling

Treasurer: Kathy Schiffer

There were no other nominations from the floor so we will officially vote on these nominations at our last PTA meeting in May.

**IV. Report of Committees:**

**A. Yearbook (Melissa Rizzuto and Renee D'Amico):**

1. Renee would like all baby pictures ASAP
2. We are having a cover contest for the yearbook. Students will most likely vote on their favorite.
3. We are adding 4 more pages for the yearbook; however, this will not affect the cost. It will remain under \$20. Please continue to take pictures of upcoming school events. (Earth Day) It was suggested to reach out to Kelly Katzbeck, our tech coordinator to see if she may have pictures of school events.

**B. Earth Day (Melissa Rizzuto):**

1. Hopewell will celebrate Earth day on April 12th with a fun filled day of activities.

2. With the exception of Kindergarten who will be doing their own activities, each class will be involved in 2 activities.
3. First Grade: Students will be making a bird feeder out of cheerios and planting flowers
4. Second Grade: Students will be making necklaces with a slice of a tree and be making pictures using their arms and hands. (\*Second graders will be coming home with a Silky Dogwood Tree at the end of the month)
5. First and Second Grades will have a visit from the Lehigh Valley Zoo where they will bring 4 different animals.
6. Third Grade Classes will be making grass caterpillars in the morning and dissecting owl pellets in the afternoon. Representatives from Hawk Mountain will be coming to speak to the third graders, bringing an owl and a hawk.
7. There are 62 volunteers signed up to help with these activities and almost all the materials have been donated by parents through Facebook request. We are still in need of milk jugs.

**C. Family Fun:**

1. Iron Pigs Night scheduled for June 10, 2017. We have reserved 500 seats for Hopewell and Liberty Bell families. The tickets are \$10 and include a \$2 merchandise/food credit. There will be fireworks after the game. This is a nice way to end the year and begin the summer. If you have a preference with seating, please indicate this when placing your order and send your orders in together. Order forms will be coming home soon.

**D. Spring Festival (Tara Moyer):**

1. Tara said we are making nice progress with the planning of the festival.
2. Jill Wheeler will be chairing the bake sale/cake spin.
3. The sign up genius link is being updated and a packet which includes ticket/wristband orders, food order form and volunteer information will be going home after Easter.
4. All volunteers will receive 5 free tickets which can be used for concessions or raffles (these can be picked up at the volunteer sign in table). Ms. Limper suggested reaching out to the older students in the district for volunteers (National Honor's Society and Key Club)
5. There is a festival meeting immediately following this meeting.

**E. New Business:**

1. "Turn Markers Into Energy" - Mrs. Lysakowski is collecting old markers for a program devised to turn used markers into energy. The collection will run through April 28th. Drop-off boxes will be located around the school.

**V. Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,  
*Catherine Ziets*  
*Recording Secretary*